

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MBABAN 02014 151415Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 /069 W
-----074615 160625Z /10

R 151020Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4974
INFO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 2014

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, SHUM, WZ
SUBJECT: DETENTION OF SWAZILAND CITIZENS UNDER THE
1973 SECURITY PROCLAMATION

1. POST HAS LEARNED FROM CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES THAT
THE FOLLOWING SWAZILAND CITIZENS ARE UNDER DETENTION
AT MATSAPHA PRISON. NO PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY
GOS HAS BEEN MADE OF THESE DETENTIONS.

A. AMBROSE SIMELANE: HE WAS DETAINED IN FEBRUARY OF THIS
YEAR. SIMELANE MANAGED A FARM SOUTH OF
MANZINI WHERE A PAC ARMS CACHE HAD BEEN HIDDEN AND
DISCOVERED BY POLICE. SIMELANE, WHO WAS NOT A PAC
MEMBER, WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO BE DETAINED IN THE PAC
CRACKDOWN. IT WAS THIS DISCOVERY OF ARMS THAT PLAYED A
KEY ROLE IN THE GOS DECISION TO CRACKDOWN ON THE PAC.

B. AFRICA MHLANGA: THIS IS AT LEAST THE SECOND DETENTION
FOR MHLANGA - APREVIOUS ONE WAS IN 1976. MHLANGA WAS
AN ACTIVIST IN THE NOW-BANNED NGWANE NATIONAL LIBERATORY
CONGRESS (NNLC) OPPOSITION PARTY.
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PAGE 02 MBABAN 02014 151415Z

C. SAMUEL MYENI - ANOTHER NNLC ACTIVIST; HE HAD BEEN
ACTIVELY TRYING TO SECURE DR. AMBROSE ZWANE'S RELEASE
FROM DETENTION BY APPROACHING ROYAL FAMILY MEMBERS
AND ASKING THEM TO INTERCEDE WITH THE KING. MYENI,
LIKE ZWANE, MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH PEOPLE (POSSIBLY
FREIMO) IN MOZAMBIQUE. THIS ALONE WAS ENOUGH TO TERRIFY

GOS, WHICH IS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF
FRELIMO SUPPORTING (OR URGING) THE NNLC TO OPEN A
LIBERATION MOVEMENT AIMED AT SWAZILAND FROM MOZAMBIQUE.
MYENI WAS SUSPECTED OF TRANSPORTING SWAZI YOUTHS TO
MOZAMBIQUE.

D. KISLON SHONGWE - EMBOFF IS NOT AWARE OF SHONGWE'S RECENT
ACTIVITIES. HE TOO WAS AN OFFICIAL OF THE NNLC AND
SUSPECTED OF CONTINUED UNDERGROUND ACTIVITY IN SWAZILAND.

2. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SIMELANE, THE GOS REASONS FOR
THE DETENTIONS ARE NOT KNOWN TO POST. THIS BRINGS TO
SIX (6) THE TOTAL OF SWAZI CITIZENS KNOWN TO POST TO BE
UNDER DETENTION. IT IS PROBABLE THAT THERE ARE OTHERS.
THIS LAST CRACKDOWN PLACES VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE STILL
ACTIVE NNLC LEADERSHIP UNDER DETENTION AND SHOULD
EFFECTIVELY CRIPPLE ANY NNLC ACTIVITY THAT WAS STILL
GOING ON.
WACHOB

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